

Racial Problem Viewed From A New Angle

JADIE GREENWAY  
By I. S. Young. (Crown Publishers; \$2.75.)

Reviewed by  
CARTER BROOKE JONES.

If some of our novelists who are writing angry books about racial injustice, basing their theses almost entirely on social segregation, would drop their theories for a moment and look about them, it might occur to them that they are oversimplifying the problem.

They might, if they studied their material first hand, even come to realize that economic equality is far more vital to any minority. If you increase the chances of people for an education and a better living, other injustices can wait; most of them will melt away in the course of time. It need not be admitted, as Marxists argue, that economic and social relations and even intermarriage are bound together.

Mr. Young, in a first novel of unusual merit, has turned away from the indignation of racial injustice, disguised as fiction to write about some Negroes as they actually live—not in the oppressive South, but in unsegregated Brooklyn.

With the schools reopening, the book is timely because the story of Jadie Greenway is centered in a public school. The pupils are all Negroes, though most of the teachers are white. Mr. Young, a white teacher, now a minor executive in the New York City school system, once taught in such a school.

The teachers are the only white characters in his novel. The children live in crowded flats in crumbling old houses. Their parents are out of a sort of living. The streets where the boys and girls live and play are tough; so are they.

Negroes occupy this squalid neighborhood, but it is not a segregation enforced by law or by intimidation. It's a colored section, just as there are Polish, Irish, Jewish, Italian, French, Spanish sections in many large cities.

Jadie is 16 and attractive. Her father had cleared out long ago. She and her mother and the two younger children live in a typical upstairs flat, with primitive conveniences. The mother finds prostitution easier than working as a scrub-woman. Jadie has grown into adolescence, not fooled by her mother, wise to all the ways of the hard little world around her.

Can't Be Bluffed.

At school there's a feud between Jadie and an overbearing, overbearing girl named Queen Mary, who rules most of the girls by inspiring admiration or fear. But Jadie can't be bluffed. She carries a clasp knife with a thick opener; it's the only way she knows to protect herself. Then the new colored teacher, Mr. Chelton, appears, handsome, athletic, Jadie stands why he rejects her frank advances, while all the other young men in her neighborhood have to be fought off, sometimes with the knife.

Jadie gets into a lot of trouble. That's not to be wondered at. What chance has a girl like Jadie? It's only the understanding and compassion of the white principal that keep Jadie away from the police and reform school.

... Jadie had no concern about the world—almost no little. What was the world as she did about her family? Whatever thought she gave to herself and to her environment was processed by her immediate needs and desires.

Chelton, the colored teacher, remarks: "Among some people there are some who are intent upon maintaining a hiatus between white and black even when and where that schism is nonexistent or very slender."

Mr. Young's story, like the people it depicts, is tough. Their language is rough. But you couldn't report their talk in nice phrases, or, if you did, it would have no reality. If the effect is shocking, that's because of the condition the book reveals—the way in which some children must grow up.

It's a sordid picture Mr. Young shows us, but the truth often lacks beauty and decorum. There's also sympathy and understanding in his portrayal.

Boy Meets a Girl You'll Remember

JULIE  
By Ruth Babcock. (Coward-McCann; \$2.75.)

Obviously, Julie had seen better days, but Chad Burns, the struggling young architect, the boy who makes himself responsible for her welfare, has no idea how good they were until midway in this agreeable first novel. Julie takes the ministrations of Chad and his equally strapping friends more or less for granted. She never complains, exactly, just detached, and the other girls can see at once that she has "class," for which they both admire and resent her. As long as "Julie" is a study of an arresting personality, it is holding enough, but the treatment of the romance which develops between Julie and Chad is not entirely satisfactory, because Miss Babcock is telling the story in the first person from Chad's point of view and she never makes him interesting or even believable. She does much better describing Julie's effect on other women—M. McG.

A Texas Raconteur

CUB REPORTER  
By Boyce House. (Hightower Press, Dallas, Tex.; \$2.50.)

Mr. House, described as a "Texas raconteur" (isn't that being redundant?), here has written a detailed account of his days as a cub reporter on the Memphis Commercial Appeal in the days of its great editor, C. P. J. Mooney. There is very little in it about the paper or Mr. Mooney except as they figure in Mr. House's personal experience. This is his book.



From the jacket design of "Jadie Greenway," by I. S. Young.

Soap-Opera Plot, But Writing and Atmosphere Good

SWAMP WILLOW  
By Edwina Elroy. (G. P. Putnam's Sons; \$3.)

"Swamp Willow" is an unusual novel which explores a little-known segment of Americana.

In 1914, Big Lem Tanner lived in the shanty section of Riverhill, situated on a New Jersey river because it met the sea. Big Lem had a daughter, Holly, a snappy, pretty girl of 15; a son, Bay, and numerous nephews and cousins. They made a living out of clams and lobsters. They could almost see the skyline of New York, yet some of the old men of Tanenow had never been to the big city.

When Lem was killed in a lobster-boat race, Holly was befriended by Sid Tracy, the saloon and dancehall keeper. Finally he took her away to New York, then Chicago, where he abandoned her, leaving her there as a chambermaid in the cheap hotel, and Mr. Knowles, the old clerk who was night manager, were kind to her. And Sade went with Holly and her son back to Riverhill—a journey that took them five years because they had to work in war plants in Detroit and slowly save the money.

They settled down in Big Lem's old shack on the river. When clamming and lobstering failed, there was rum-running, in which the river-wives could help. One year there was a Larry Ainsworth, who came from the grand section of Riverhill and a rich family. He and Holly were in love. Their romance, which lasted three months, was the biggest thing in her life. But there were adventures in the years ahead.

"Swamp Willow" is a sentimental side. And at least four characters are disposed of by violent means. Nonetheless, Miss Elroy writes well, and she has woven atmosphere and character into a cohesive narrative which always is interesting and sometimes poignant.

—C. B. J.

Variety and Vitality In This Novel of A Southern Town

WELL SING ONE SONG  
By Olive Carruthers. (Bobbs-Merrill; \$2.75.)

A spoiled aristocrat who hates his old Kentucky home and a Lincolnton, N. C., country attorney who loves his, are the two main characters in this novel of life in a Southern town. A large supporting cast, including an importunate and much-resented Yankee promoter, a shabby-genteel trio of maiden ladies, the neurotic action of the town's wealthiest family, a



comely Negro girl and a host of others help to carry the burden of a plot which embraces political intrigue, miscegenation and several murders.

Wells Wickham, who has spent much of his life trying to drink his way out of an environment of family tradition by the spider web of family lights out immediately for Chicago, where he finds peace in the arms of a troubled nurse and purpose in a correspondence school course in accounting. On the other hand, his best friend, Steve Pickett, stays on home grounds joyously doing battle with perfidious politicians, unscrupulous distillers and a tricky parcel of no-account poor whites.

"Well Sing One Song" has no end of variety and some vitality, although Mr. Carruthers' style is undistinguished and her treatment is episodic in the extreme. Since she allows only a few pages to one character before switching off to another, which produces somewhat the effect of riding in a car that never explains. As a story of a sleepy Southern community, the novel reads like an inside job, but it doesn't go very deep—M. McG.

Just Stock, But Medically Sound

TAKE THREE DOCTORS  
By Elizabeth Seifert. (Dodd, Mead & Co.; \$2.50.)

Reviewed by  
MARGARET CHILD.

Take three doctors (a talented, young one; a talented, bitter older one; a narrow-minded, warped old one). Place in a small town and shake together well. The result is the usual story about a stuffy conventional country town first prejudiced against, then warming to the modern method young doctor from "outside."

The story depicts a pretty young school teacher; a town "bad girl" (with a heart of gold, naturally); a jolting fire, and a "great awakening" epidemic. And the equally stock plot ending for every one. The medical passages, which are frequent, make interesting reading.

A City Which Needs to Be Understood

THE BOSTON BOOK  
Photographs by Arthur Griffin; text by Esther Forbes. (Houghton, Mifflin; \$5.)

Reviewed by  
MARY MCGRORY.

Beautiful, old Boston has been pretty thoroughly taken apart in the national press during the past few years. Its political acrobatics, its money troubles (due in large part to the independence of surrounding towns), its racial discords (much lessened, by the way, since the first flaming headlines in out-of-town journals) have been held up for the scorn of the rest of the Nation by a steady stream of observers, including Georgia's Ellis Arnall. Now a team of New Englanders have put Boston together again, so to speak, in a handsome and affectionate volume of prose and pictures which proves that its charm at least is incorruptible.

In her sprightly, scholarly text, Esther Forbes, Pulitzer Prize winning biographer of Paul Revere, does not dwell on the controversial aspects of the Boston scene. She stresses history and atmosphere, of which the city has almost more than its share. And in recalling his magnificent past, Boston takes more or less for granted, she is perhaps suggesting that by a proper exertion of its inherent regional qualities, it may once again become "The Hub of the Universe."

Well Qualified. Miss Forbes is, of course, from Worcester, which was strictly out of bounds to the late George Apley. A young and loving family with every historic brick in the city have qualified her perfectly for her role of guide. She has summed up admirably the prevailing outlook attitude toward the city.

"Probably no city in America has furnished more tales—its banned books and its uplift, its baked beans, rubber pants, sensible shoes, brown bread, codfish cakes and accent, the markers on the trees in the Public Garden, the mudcrackers, serious culture and traffic snarls. But no American city has had to ride too long in parade in New York. (The Secret Service took care of that, too.)"

More serious was a row between Gen. Charles de Gaulle and Roosevelt, which caused Reilly to reach for his shoulder holster.

Little Details. King George, a very unhappy human being when he had to ride too long in parade in New York. (The Secret Service took care of that, too.)

More serious was a row between Gen. Charles de Gaulle and Roosevelt, which caused Reilly to reach for his shoulder holster.

Arthur Griffin's photographs are above reproach. He has caught everything but the east wind that sweeps up from the harbor on a hot day. While doing full justice to the crowding memories of Puritan and Revolutionary days, the storied slopes of Beacon Hill, the museums and Symphony Hall, he has outdone himself in the pictures of the Common and the Public Garden. The 72-acre patch of green in the heart of the city that the true Bostonian loves as he does his own front yard.

A Fine Portrait. Ralph Waldo Emerson once herded cows on the Common. Now lovers sit on the benches around the Parkman Bandstand oblivious to the ceaseless harangues of amateur orators. Homeward-bound pedestrians have to pick their way through knots of North End youngsters skimming into their clothes after a hard day in the hip-deep waves of the Frog Pond. Across the street in the more circumspect, the old gardens, lovers of beauty stroll among symmetrically perfect flower beds and admire bulbs which are arranged to spell out greetings to visiting dignitaries. Children plead for one more ride on the swan-boat and sailboats navigate rowboats through the quiet waters of the Lagoon. And everywhere underfoot are importunate squirrels and pigeons which have been spoiled by the tourists. Mr. Griffin has pictured it beautifully. (He had nothing to do with the reproduction, which in the case of several of the color photographs is not too felicitous.)

Between them, Miss Forbes, with her brisk, bright prose, and Mr. Griffin with his light pictures, they have provided the reader with a tour to a city which needs to be understood as well as seen. "The Boston Book" offers heart's balm for the natives, enlightenment for the visitor and a severe case of nostalgia for the exile. You couldn't ask much more of it.

Summer Visitors And Twin Sisters

HEAVEN AND VICE VERSA  
By Ethel Hueston. (Bobbs-Merrill; \$2.75.)

Miss Hueston's new novel moves smoothly, lightly, amusingly until a good two-thirds of the story is told. Then a dramatic theme is developed suddenly, and the narrative ends in a tense and unexpected climax.

It's not out of key when the brightness of the strifings gives way to a dark brooding in the wood-winds. The strings return to their cheerful mood, though subdued by a contrapuntal tragedy. Miss Hueston has written many novels. She composes them expertly. They may not be profound, they may not be too close to average reality; but they are absorbing, which is not a trivial merit.

"Heaven and Vice Versa" concerns twin sisters still on the glamorous side of middle age, and the two attractive daughters of one sister. The older sisters are widows, the childless one by court decree. Other characters are the owner of the adjoining estate in New Jersey and a group of summer visitors, male. The beloved, middle-aged neighbor is a bachelor, who owns most of the county. The visitors include a second man who is affluent and has reached the age of indiscretion, and his three youthful proteges, emerging GIs, one his nephew.

The several romances which this summer paradise is sure to nurture are developing according to pattern when Lydia's first husband, divorced and unheard of these 20 years, turns up in a startling way. Then things begin to happen in several directions.



"I saw before me the President of the United States in hot argument with a very angry man. So Charles de Gaulle has the distinction of being the only man in the world whose actions and my training made me conscience-bound to remove my pistol from my holster and hold it in my hand for half an hour. Neither De Gaulle nor the Boss ever knew it."

A Happy-Go-Lucky Irishman, Mike Reilly, But He Kept FDR Safe From Wartime Harm

REILLY OF THE WHITE HOUSE  
By Michael F. Reilly as told to William J. Slocum. (Simon & Schuster; \$3.)

Reviewed by JOSEPH A. FOX.

"Mike" Reilly, a happy-go-lucky Irishman from Montana, had one of the most exciting jobs of wartime. As head of the White House Secret Service detail, he was responsible for the well-being of Franklin Delano Roosevelt every hour of the day and night.

"Reilly of the White House" is an accounting of his stewardship. In close relationship with the President as this duty entailed. Reilly, naturally, saw policies of grave moment conceived and developed—or rejected—but the narrator never was one to take himself seriously, and this is a phase that has been left for discussion by pundits. The Reilly tale always in good humor (but with fingers crossed at times) is the froth.

Winston Churchill is not the great statesman but an individual whose capacity for and ability to handle liquid refreshment was a source of wonder and admiration.

Mme. Chiang Kai-shek, charming beyond dispute, but with mannerisms that annoyed American servants no end.

Little Details. King George, a very unhappy human being when he had to ride too long in parade in New York. (The Secret Service took care of that, too.)

More serious was a row between Gen. Charles de Gaulle and Roosevelt, which caused Reilly to reach for his shoulder holster.

Stalin, Ibn Saud, "Blood and

Guts" Patton, Pala and all the rest who figured so largely in a history-making era, have their place also in these chronicles.

Great Precautions. The extreme precautions that were taken to protect "The Boss" from harm, including elaborate plans to guard against possibility of an assault on the White House by Axis paratroopers, make up an intriguing chapter.

This protective proposition was highly complicated, both because of President Roosevelt's infirmity, and his insistence on going wherever fancy dictated. Reilly recalls incidentally that the memorable Tehran trip nearly ended in disaster when the plane flaps were jammed in the approach to Malta, and the C-54, lacking adequate braking facilities, had to land FDR at 150 miles an hour.

The team of Reilly-Slocum has done a good reporting-writing job. "Reilly of the White House" is enjoyable reading.

These findings, although he considers the basis of this resistance psychological rather than logical. Who, 50 years ago, would have accepted a prediction of radio, or radar, or the atomic bomb?

Whether or not one accepts Prof. Rhine's conclusions, one is bound to admire his scientific approach and his persistence in delving in a field which has challenged man's imagination since the dawn of history. Those who already believe in ESP will find their beliefs confirmed. Those who do not will find themselves challenged and stimulated.

THE YEARS AFTER FIFTY  
By Wingate Johnson, M. D. (McGraw Hill; \$2.)

This compact volume is the latest addition to the Whitelore House Health Series, edited by Dr. Morris Fishbein. Much attention is being given of late to health education, and since more people are living into middle age and beyond than was ever the case before, books of this sort are sure of a wide circulation. Dr. Johnson is professor of clinical medicine at the Bowman Gray School of Medicine. He not only knows his subject thoroughly, but writes clearly and simply, with realism, but without alarmism, and on the whole, optimistically. He has written "to help the intelligent man and woman prepare for the latter half of life, through discussion of the various problems that are peculiar to this period." He adds, "I also hope that those who have aging relatives or dependents may find in this book some advice that will be helpful." It achieves these aims he has succeeded admirably.

—W. O.

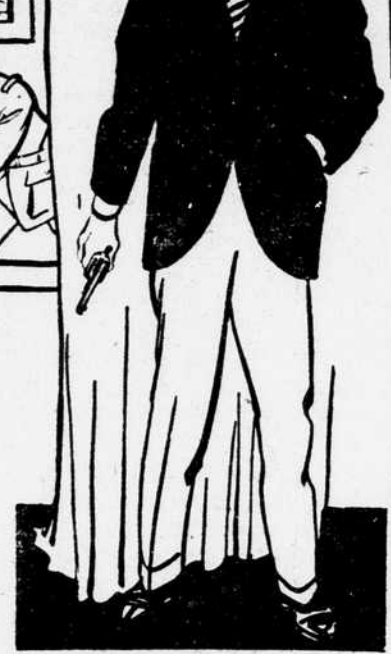
The Public Library

By Grace Quimby

Readers' Adviser in Economics, Washington Public Library

"Bringing changes into a world of resounding changes" (Sandberg) is the weighty responsibility labor is shouldering. This imposes a stringent test of social wisdom upon labor. Strength it has. Will it understanding be deep enough? Its temper level? Its decisions just? Its wisdom developed out of experiences digested and transmitted through effective education. It is this education—for industrial relationships, for community goals—that citizen workers seek. Opportunities for it are gradually being

provided by certain universities, by State extension programs, by union institutes or forums, and special schools like the Hudson Shore School. It is forwarded by writers like Mark Starr ("Workers' Education Today") and Caroline Ware ("Labor Education in the Universities"); by the American Labor Education Service through its branch institutes and publications; by local committees like the Washington Workers' Education Committee which is sponsoring a forum series this fall, welcoming every one's participation. And "Government Support of Workers' Education," described by Eleanor Galt.



From the jacket of "Reilly of the White House."

Returned Vets Of Three Wars In Tough Novel

THE TOM-WALKER  
By Marl Sandoz. (Dial Press; \$3.)

Reviewed by  
FRANCIS P. DOUGLAS.

Milton Stone wondered, as the other Stones had before him, "if there was any way to return from the wars but dead."

Another Milton, grandfather of the Milton Stone of World War II, came back from Sherman's army with only one leg, a "cripp." Finally he had an iron pipe fitted to the stump and became known as the Tom-Walker, a term applied ordinarily to a man walking on stilts.

The panic of 1873 drove him from the Cincinnati home to the West. From Council Bluffs he sold patent medicine from an orange-covered wagon. Legends gathered around him and the feats he could perform with his iron leg.

The Tom-Walker's son Martin came back a cripple, too, his lungs eaten by the gas of World War I. He became a victim of the depression, his disability and the neuroses it produced. His tragic disintegration is portrayed almost clinically in the best section of Miss Sandoz's book.

Milton Stone, back from World War II, had a bullet in his chest which one day, the doctors told him, would reach his heart.

One reason he wandered about returning from the wars alive was the gulf between soldier and civilian. Old Milton, returning, found his father a war grifter. Martin found his sacrifices had been given to a plot by international bankers abetted by Wilson—according to the stay-at-homes. Young Milton's brother on the Stones' Wyoming farm held back his cattle in a strike against the OPA and speculated on how much he would have made had the bomb been withheld from Hiroshima another six months.

The wives of the three veterans are the civilians, too, lacking the understanding of the crippled soldier, needed to bolster their pride and confidence.

It is a tough book Miss Sandoz has written, with tough language and tough people. But the people are real people and they live against a background which is almost a history of populism in the West.

Tracing a Boy's Growth Toward Man's Estate

TOWARD WHAT BRIGHT LAND  
By Walter Gilykson. (Charles Scribner's Sons; \$3.)

Reviewed by  
ROBERT K. WALSH.

With a memory that plays no tricks and a sure sense of perspective, a writer in middle age is better able than is a youthful author to do a novel tracing a boy's growth to maturity.

Walter Gilykson thus recaptures the long days and thoughts of childhood and portrays with equal faithfulness the sometimes frightening but not necessarily despairing disillusionment when a man must put away the things of a child.

The only exception that might be taken to the progression of "Toward What Bright Land" is not that Timothy Rood idolized and idealized people, or that his early ideals were shallow. It is that so many of the people were so far from heroic and virtuous when viewed with the wisdom that supposedly comes with age. Even real life is not always so disillusioning.

Timothy, son of a socially correct Philadelphia lawyer in the years after the Civil War, looks upon his particular world and those who inhabit it with the immediate sphere of civility as being little short of idyllic, although Philadelphia of that period was considerably less than pastoral.

His awakening is especially bitter as he begins to see his family and the life of his friends in a new light. In the meanness of an affair with his best friend's sister, he suffers the worst kind of disillusionment when he realizes he lacks the strong moral fiber he had taken for granted. He eventually grows up for himself, if presumably stunted, destiny.

The author deserves credit for a story of richly descriptive but unusually unobtrusive detail and a narrative that seldom goes down in nostalgia. Mr. Gilykson is a Pennsylvania lawyer and a writer of legal articles who has traveled far and in 1946 was an American secretary at the war criminal trials in Nuremberg. He writes charmingly and authoritatively of Philadelphia locale, but with enough universal interest to raise hope that some of his future works will be broader in place and time.

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From the Scientists: Fresh Information On Psychic Phenomena; Life After 50

THE REACH OF THE MIND  
By J. B. Rhine. (William Sloane; \$3.50.)

Reviewed by DR. WINFRED OVERHOLSER,  
Superintendent, St. Elizabeths Hospital and Editor of Quarterly Review of Psychiatry and Neurology.

The story is told of the yoke who, on seeing a giraffe for the first time, exclaimed, "There ain't no such animal!" Something of the same feeling of confusion may be experienced by the reader of this volume. It is a book about ESP, or ESP, or ESP. He has used numerous subjects, and in his many tests has taken all possible precautions to avoid suggestion or collusion, and to avoid interpreting as valid results what might be due solely to chance and coincidence.

Psychology, says Prof. Rhine, has developed to such an extent and interest in the fields that the students of the mind are "brain-centered," that it, it seeks to explain all mental activity in terms of a functioning nervous system, whereas he maintains that the "mind-centered" view is the proper one. Just as the students of the early Renaissance had to decide whether the sun or the earth was the center of the universe, so must psychologists settle this question. The first was, and the second will be, he says, settled by research, not by faith or belief.

In this book, Prof. Rhine presents data and describes tests which he believes demonstrate the existence of (1) telepathy, that is, thought transference without the use of the senses, and (2) clairvoyance, that is, the direct apprehension of external objects without the use of the senses. He finds that ESP transcends the laws of physics, and is independent not only of distance, but of time! In other words, not only may past events be apprehended in this manner, but future ones may be foreseen. Still further, he maintains the existence of PK or psychokinesis, that is, that a non-physical force may produce physical results and influence, for example, as in his experiments, the fall of dice.

There is, he admits, much resistance on the part of psychologists and many others to the acceptance of these findings, although he considers the basis of this resistance psychological rather than logical. Who, 50 years ago, would have accepted a prediction of radio, or radar, or the atomic bomb?

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Anti-Nazi Working in Gestapo Tells His Story of Resistance

TO THE BITTER END  
By Hans B. Gisevius. (Houghton, Mifflin; \$4.)

Reviewed by FLETCHER F. ISBELL.

Hans B. Gisevius hunted a civil service job in his native Germany in 1933 and shortly found himself a minor Gestapo official. Later he served in other but still strategic government posts. An anti-Nazi, he conspired against the party from the start. There seems to have been some love of